



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending August 14, 2016

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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Good week for field work: New England averaged 5.5 days suitable for field work last week.

Drought conditions continued throughout many parts of New England last week with sporadic showers providing only some relief. Much of Massachusetts, the southernmost parts of New Hampshire, and the northern parts of Connecticut and Rhode Island were listed as having the most drought according to the recent U.S. Drought Monitor listings; although the region as a whole has been abnormally dry. The average weekly temperatures ranged from three degrees below normal to eleven degrees above normal in the six states. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.13 to 3.92 inches throughout the region. Farm activity focused on second and third cuttings of hay. Yields have been reported as being lower than normal. Corn was tasseling and forming ears and has been looking good in areas not affected by severe drought. The temperatures pushed vegetables ahead of normal growth. Growers harvested greens, lettuce, peas, potatoes, radishes, snap beans, beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, summer squash, sweet corn and other vegetables while monitoring for disease and insects. Orchardists were also busy mowing floors, pruning, moving bins, and repairing roads. Strawberry beds were cultivated and weeded. Blueberry and raspberry harvest was winding down. The heat, humidity, and lack of rain appeared to have impacted cranberry sizing. Peaches were reported as being nonexistent, attributed to the hard hit they took in February and March. Farmers' markets and stands had a slower week as families took off early for the beach or vacation before the start of school.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending August 14, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	32	34	34	0
SUBSOIL	33	34	33	0

Crop Conditions as of August 14, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	1	6	35	48	10
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME)	0	0	0	54	46
CORN	3	9	34	37	17
CRANBERRIES (MA)	0	5	20	70	5
DRY HAY	7	13	27	49	4
OATS (ME)	0	0	9	66	25
PASTURE AND RANGE	16	46	26	9	3
PEACHES	92	2	3	3	0
PEARS	0	7	55	37	1
POTATOES (ME)	0	0	0	50	50
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	1	3	12	51	33
RYE (ME)	0	0	0	39	61
SWEET CORN	4	8	29	56	3

Crop Progress as of August 14, 2016

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: HARVESTED	5
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: HARVESTED	68
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): HARVESTED	44
DRY HAY: 2nd CUTTING	79
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	39
PEACHES: HARVESTED	37
RYE (ME): HARVESTED	31
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	51

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oc/weather and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin.](#)"

August 14, 2016 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2016					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Maine	Augusta_State_A	94	56	71	+2	0.43	3	10.54	-5.56	47	1645	+94	2794
	Bangor_Intl_Air	91	50	70	+2	0.44	2	10.66	-3.99	51	1821	+355	2973
	Bethel	93	48	68	+2	1.71	2	14.96	-2.98	41	1452	+46	2536
	Bridgton	90	52	69	+3	2.12	2	14.57	-3.08	42	1457	+164	2552
	Caribou_Municip	85	47	65	+1	2.01	5	18.28	+3.18	57	1368	+217	2419
	Dover-Foxcroft	91	46	68	+3	0.93	2	12.71	-3.80	53	1381	+236	2455
	Durham	93	52	70	+2	1.47	3	12.32	-4.49	47	1529	+115	2668
	East_Surry	84	50	68	0	0.48	4	13.12	-3.26	54	1287	-53	2391
	Eustis	89	40	64	+3	1.75	2	11.13	-4.71	49	1164	+270	2171
	Frenchville	85	46	64	0	0.53	4	14.90	-0.53	59	1232	+172	2253
	Harmony	94	47	67	0	1.31	2	13.65	-2.62	43	1446	+125	2558
	Houlton	84	42	65	0	3.05	4	15.10	+0.23	54	1301	+128	2364
	Livermore_Falls	96	44	68	+3	0.51	3	11.77	-6.17	41	1432	+273	2524
	Millinocket_Wtr	87	46	65	-3	1.45	3	12.87	-3.96	42	1267	-62	2305
	Moosehead	87	44	64	+1	1.48	3	14.00	-3.22	53	1220	+221	2237
	Portland_ME	99	55	72	+5	0.64	3	10.36	-5.67	44	1638	+251	2795
	Rangeley_2NW	86	40	63	0	2.23	3	12.51	-3.82	57	1083	+89	2072
	Sanford	95	54	72	+4	1.13	2	11.28	-6.21	37	1654	+47	2791
	Topsfield_2	86	50	67	0	0.81	4	14.65	-2.26	54	1357	+104	2435
	Turner	92	54	69	-2	0.84	3	12.97	-3.73	49	1563	-111	2670
	Wesley_2W	90	41	67	+1	0.50	2	13.69	-1.66	39	1401	+147	2497
	West_Rockport	90	56	70	+4	0.13	3	13.34	-3.91	48	1468	+191	2576
	Whiting	90	50	71	+6	0.24	2	11.87	-5.90	43	1431	+387	2560
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	88	47	67	+2	0.84	3	12.84	-3.33	50	1344	+89	2415
	Bradford_2	91	50	71	+4	0.85	2	11.97	-5.57	39	1408	-108	2504
	Colebrook	86	42	65	+2	1.64	4	14.01	-2.81	66	1156	+1	2155
	Concord	99	53	76	+8	0.56	3	8.71	-5.67	51	1914	+335	3097
	East_Milford	95	55	75	+5	1.16	3	8.65	-8.20	51	1844	+166	3037
	Epping	96	54	74	+6	1.00	2	9.99	-6.42	49	1740	+155	2906
	Errol_AP	88	39	64	+1	1.20	4	13.86	-1.74	49	1169	+133	2184
	Greenville	93	55	74	+9	1.71	3	10.04	-7.12	45	1615	+268	2763
	Hancock	93	51	73	+6	1.39	3	12.06	-5.16	55	1614	+149	2741
	Jaffrey_Silver_	93	55	75	+10	2.14	3	11.53	-5.63	50	1800	+453	2968
	Jefferson	88	48	68	+3	0.87	2	14.80	-1.89	55	1392	+79	2460
	Keene_AG	94	51	74	+7	3.92	2	13.71	-2.70	49	1698	+171	2859
	Lakeport_2	95	54	75	+5	0.74	2	12.06	-4.38	41	1851	+225	3013
	Lebanon	94	50	74	+7	2.20	3	15.04	+0.86	50	1833	+346	2981
	North_Conway	96	52	72	+4	2.08	4	14.85	-3.21	49	1640	+160	2747
	Tamworth_4	91	48	68	+3	1.94	3	16.75	-3.04	50	1328	+128	2409
	Wolfeburro	98	57	72	+3	0.67	3	12.72	-3.72	47	1657	+31	2822
Vermont	Averill	85	37	66	+5	3.07	5	16.81	-2.07	42	1168	+297	2135
	Bennington_AP	92	54	74	+10	1.85	5	13.07	-6.63	57	1740	+482	2922
	Burlington_Intl	96	56	77	+9	0.61	3	11.04	-4.40	53	2015	+367	3157
	Corinth	91	50	69	+4	1.55	3	12.84	-1.60	49	1290	-59	2349
	Johnson_2N	86	49	68	+4	1.13	3	17.81	+0.79	54	1314	+53	2366
	Marlboro_Raws	89	56	73	+8	2.16	2	15.65	-0.41	52	1587	+365	2724
	Montpelier_AP	90	49	71	+6	2.73	2	14.33	-0.11	50	1436	+87	2517
	Newport_AG	88	46	69	+2	2.45	4	15.19	-1.53	55	1431	-99	2477

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2016					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	90	49	71	+6	1.22	3	13.46	-5.18	41	1427	+144	2519
	Rutland_AG	91	51	73	+5	1.50	3	13.12	-3.63	58	1573	-2	2693
	Springfield_VT	93	51	74	+8	0.43	2	10.40	-7.66	46	1699	+287	2849
	South_Lincoln	91	46	69	+6	2.43	2	13.57	-6.11	47	1271	+165	2332
	Sutton	86	49	68	+4	0.80	4	19.20	+1.80	62	1297	+164	2344
	Walden	84	43	65	+2	0.92	4	17.76	+0.36	61	1045	-88	2030
	Woodstock	93	50	72	+6	1.68	2	12.55	-3.54	43	1633	+208	2752
Massachusetts	Amherst	94	52	76	+7	1.19	4	10.49	-7.04	48	1908	+203	3126
	Barre_Falls_Dam	93	52	75	+9	2.60	3	11.98	-5.81	53	1727	+384	2876
	Bedford_Hanscom	97	53	77	+7	0.79	4	7.18	-9.57	48	1999	+260	3220
	Beverly_Ag	93	57	76	+4	2.25	3	10.72	-4.38	48	1644	-168	2830
	Birch_Hill_Dam	92	51	74	+8	1.82	3	12.42	-4.95	48	1713	+351	2879
	Boston_Logan_In	98	68	79	+7	0.76	3	8.71	-5.89	44	2106	+172	3349
	Chatham_AP	88	62	76	+8	0.14	2	10.79	-5.09	47	1750	+407	2938
	Chicopee_Westov	95	51	78	+9	0.52	3	11.35	-6.18	45	2011	+306	3235
	Edgartown	89	63	77	+6	0.56	4	13.83	-2.31	50	1813	+229	3044
	East_Brimfield_	92	54	75	+7	1.53	5	14.86	-2.12	63	1757	+202	2942
	Fitchburg	96	60	79	+8	1.74	3	9.00	-8.90	43	2181	+410	3416
	Greenfield	93	54	75	+6	1.31	4	12.27	-5.26	55	1877	+172	3076
	Hyannis_AP	88	61	77	+7	0.15	2	11.28	-3.21	42	1814	+265	3017
	Maynard	100	55	78	+8	1.44	3	10.40	-6.35	51	2015	+276	3235
	New_Bedford	92	57	78	+5	0.32	4	12.87	-4.67	48	1948	+31	3169
	Newburyport	98	60	76	+6	0.69	2	9.20	-7.55	49	1799	+51	2978
	North_Adams_Har	91	50	74	+9	2.25	5	15.33	-4.70	58	1748	+438	2929
	Norwood	96	50	76	+5	0.54	2	8.90	-7.48	45	1927	+113	3155
	Pittsfield	90	51	73	+7	0.81	4	14.68	-4.62	54	1644	+176	2817
	Plymouth	94	57	77	+6	0.79	3	10.89	-6.07	48	1903	+149	3099
	Taunton_4NW	96	59	78	+7	1.05	3	13.70	-3.02	56	2045	+278	3272
	Westfield_Barne	96	55	78	+11	0.58	4	11.34	-6.75	51	2092	+609	3323
	West_Otis	92	55	76	+10	1.73	5	15.07	-5.85	65	1869	+468	3078
	Worcester	90	63	76	+7	1.46	2	11.08	-7.21	51	1846	+266	3040
	Worthington	91	51	73	+7	1.53	3	15.55	-4.02	56	1506	+143	2639
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	89	61	77	+6	0.44	3	10.42	-5.10	48	1847	+224	3077
	Providence	93	63	79	+7	1.02	3	14.06	-1.98	51	2163	+253	3416
	Westerly-Wester	90	58	77	+6	0.86	3	12.85	-4.06	46	1929	+199	3170
	Woonsocket	94	58	78	+7	1.81	3	14.38	-2.92	50	2021	+228	3253
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	95	66	82	+9	2.58	5	14.94	-2.11	54	2314	+344	3594
	Danbury_AP	94	57	77	+7	1.08	4	13.64	-6.14	57	1993	+125	3241
	Hartford_Bradle	99	55	80	+8	2.07	4	11.58	-5.93	52	2252	+253	3511
	Meriden-Meriden	97	57	80	+9	0.61	4	11.18	-8.81	53	2221	+421	3485
	Norfolk	90	53	73	+7	2.40	4	14.74	-6.18	51	1662	+261	2820
	Norwich	95	61	79	+7	0.80	3	14.16	-4.03	44	2106	+195	3359
	Staffordville	92	54	75	+6	2.66	3	14.37	-4.22	46	1652	+50	2826
	Thomaston_Dam	99	52	77	+9	0.95	5	12.99	-6.15	62	1973	+346	3200
	West_Thompson_L	92	54	76	+7	3.47	4	15.01	-3.96	51	1807	+192	3004
	Willimantic	96	56	79	+10	1.20	5	12.92	-5.67	58	2182	+580	3443

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
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REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

CONNECTICUT

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

Rain showers brought much needed relief. Corn has uncurled. Grass is growing. Corn silage yield will be off, but grain is filling out, so the quality should be good.

NEW LONDON, Sarah Woodward

Hot and humid with quite a few passing showers. Harvesting collards, eggplant, peppers, tomatoes and watermelons. Some orchards are still picking a few peaches.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Sunny, hot, and humid weather over 100 degrees; scattered thunderstorms with intense lighting dropping up to an inch and quickly moving on; conditions are still drought like; irrigating vegetables; getting ready to chop silage corn; baling hay, chopping grass; blueberry picking continues; pastures are being supplemented.

MAINE

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Scattered thunderstorms gave some areas relief from the drought over the weekend. Damage reported in parts of Cumberland County from a thunderstorm Friday afternoon. Vegetable farmers have had germination problems with crops planted this summer due to the drought. Early sweet corn is better than later planted corn. High temperatures also has pushed vegetables ahead of where they would normally be. Second cut hay isn't much, but is being cut by farmers who need to feed their animals.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Thank goodness, rain came in the nick of time. Yields and quality will still be down for hay. Some corn yields could be down a little. Pastures will need some time to recover. Apples and irrigated vegetables look great.

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins

Received about an inch of rain last week and more is needed for crop growth.

WASHINGTON, Audre Hayward

Very dry. Above average, high temps and humidity.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Some parts of Massachusetts received some rain though other areas did not receive any. Rainfall continues to be very sporadic. A sizable portion of Middlesex County was rated "D3 - Extreme Drought" in the latest weekly U.S. Drought Monitor. Corn silage yields will be down considerably. 2nd cuttings of grass almost non-existent in many parts of Massachusetts.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Spotty showers did little to relieve any drought conditions. Farm Stands are bursting with a wide range of crops, sweet corn, onions, early potatoes, broccoli, greens, peppers, tomatoes, eggplant, melons, beets, carrots, and blueberries. Increased notice of losses have been reported to the office.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Midweek rain was welcome but did little to alleviate the drought conditions. The week ended with extreme heat and humidity. Cranberries size appears impacted by the heat and lack of rain.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Conditions ranging from bright, sunny, and pleasant, to hot and sticky, to torrential downpours. There was a little rain on Wednesday and a whole lot of it on Saturday evening with severe thunderstorms. Field corn is looking better overall, but previously stressed areas are stunted. Hayfields and pastures starting to green up just a bit with moisture. Vegetable crops still going strong. PYO berries still doing well, and earliest varieties of apples may be ready to start picking soon.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Field corn on sandier soils showing drought stress earlier in the week. Good soaking rain at the end of the week has helped. Nearly all corn now in tassel and the earliest planted is at blister stage. Cover crop seeding of Rye and Oats by helicopter completed on several 100s of acres of field corn this week. Sweet corn about ready for picking. Barley being combined, looks to have dried down well this year. Meadows looking like late summer with goldenrod in bloom, also annual grasses: foxtail, crabgrass heading out.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

Several hard downpours occurred towards the end of the week. While we needed the rain, some fields now have puddling and erosion.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Weather: Localize thunder storm produced rain showers across southern New Hampshire. Rainfall amounts varied greatly from 0.10 to 5 inches. Vegetables: Growers are harvesting an array of vegetables: beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, greens, lettuce, peas, potatoes, radishes, snap beans, summer squash, sweet corn and other vegetables. Growers monitoring disease and insect pressures, so farmers deciding if spraying is needed. Irrigating if growers have water resources left, some grower losing crops due to dry conditions and no water. Fruit: Peach trees are recovering from winter damage but there is NO fruit to harvest. Harvest first apple of the year. Blueberry and summer raspberry harvests starting to wind down or are completed. Fall raspberry being to be harvested. Orchardists busy monitoring for pests, mowing orchard floors, move bins into orchards and fixing up orchard roads. Apple

growers busy summer pruning trees. Cultivating and weeding newly strawberry renovated beds. Field Crops: Rain has helped relief drought stress corn. Very little hay making because no growth due to drought.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Jersey Mac apple variety will be ready for harvesting this week. Harvesting a whole array of vegetables including sweet corn and herbs, as well as blueberries, and raspberries. Growers were busy irrigating, cultivating, spraying and monitoring for pests. Crop yield lower in non-irrigated fields. The 2nd hay crop is very little if any. Peach crop is not available this year as many peach trees were hit by cold temperature in February and April which has been a big disappointment to consumers and growers. Some rain midweek and at end of week helped a little with the heat advisory and the week saw temperatures in the upper 90s. . The county remains in severe drought conditions. Sales at farmers markets a little bit slower as with the heat wave, people were going to the beach and families were taking off before the start of school.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

The drought conditions in RI remain in moderate drought D1 with the Northern areas in D2 severe drought. We have had severe thunderstorms that dropped a lot of rain all at once. Second cutting of hay has started but it looks very light. Farmers markets are in full swing right now. Growers with irrigation are doing well.

VERMONT

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

Areas received some much needed rain this week.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Rains in Franklin County have continued to be a welcome site. Much heat is pushing corn growth along nicely. Grasses and pastures have responded to the moisture; however, still need continued watering. Corn has not shown any adverse effects of dry weather during tassel and silt. Gardens are doing fantastic and sweet corn is in full swing so collect the bounty and get ready for those cold winter months.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

The week ended with rain on Saturday and Sunday. While there were flash flood warnings over the weekend this area was not affected. The rain over the weekend will help boost the hay and corn crops. Corn has tasseled and ears are formed. Most of the corn looks really good. Almost all of second cut hay has been harvested and farms have started third cut. As with second cut, third cut yields are a bit low due to the dry weather. Farm activity this past week included both second and third cut hay harvest and manure spreading.